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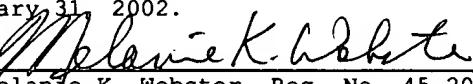
PATENT
Our Docket: P-NI 4447

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN re Application of)
Tononi et al.)
Serial No: 09/733,607)
Filed: December 8, 2000)
For: VIGILANCE NUCLEIC ACIDS)
AND RELATED DIAGNOSTIC,)
SCREENING AND THERAPEUTIC))
METHODS)
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: P.G. Holbrook
Group Art Unit: 1647

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
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envelope addressed to: Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on
January 31, 2002.

By: 
Melanie K. Webster, Reg. No. 45,201

January 31, 2002
Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Responsive to the Office Action mailed January 3, 2002,
consideration of the following Remarks is respectfully requested.
A response to the Office Action is due February 3, 2002.
Accordingly, this Response is being timely filed.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending and subject to a Restriction
Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

The claims have been restricted into Groups I-V.
Applicants elect, without traverse, the claims of Group IV,
claims 12 and 13, for prosecution on the merits.

A second restriction has also been applied, which
Applicants understand to require an election of one of SEQ ID